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THE POLLEN VORTEX THIS YEAR IS NOTHING TO SNEEZE AT. PAGE 24

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Wednesday, May 7, 2014 www.metro.us | t: MetroPhilly | f: MetroPhilly

RAISING THE BAR

Living wages. Mayor Michael Nutter signed an order on Tuesday granting city contractors and subcontractors a minimum wage increase starting in 2015. **'Commendable.'** Airport subcontractors look forward to a May 20 ballot question that would make their increase permanent. PAGE 02

POWER executive director Bishop Dwayne Royster speaks after a press conference on Tuesday where Mayor Michael Nutter signed an executive order to mandate a living wage for city contractors and subcontractors. / CHARLES MOSTOLLER, METRO

Help 'Conquer Cancer' at bike ride

PAGE 06

US issues warning on climate change

PAGE 07

Something funny happened to Rose Byrne

PAGE 17

No dress for the wedding? Rent one!

PAGES 20-21

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1 NEWS

Local tweet

"Holy homework. I will be living at the library all night and until this summer season is over. I would rather be at a @Phillies game!!! :)"

You're not missing much, @Klang06. You'll hit more books this summer than Phillies will hit homers.

Top 3

What's trending online at Metro.us?

1 'Veep' recap: Season 3, Episode 5, 'Fishing"

2 'Eric LeGrand says Rutgers offered, rescinded graduation speech'

3 'Who broke the fashion rules at the Met Gala?'

Nutter 'couldn't wait' on wage hike

Alive. The mayor increased city contractors living wages, but other workers are still looking to May 20.

Mayor Michael Nutter signs the executive order mandating a living wage for city contractors and subcontractors. / CHARLES MOSTOLLER, METRO

The living wage gained new life Tuesday in Philadelphia.

Mayor Michael Nutter signed an executive order that will raise the city's minimum wage for city contractors and subcontractors starting in 2015.

The order calls for companies with at least large city contracts to bump their workers pay from $10.88 per hour to $12 per hour starting on Jan. 1, 2015.

The order also calls for those contractors to pay the top-level subcontractors $10.88 per hour, starting in two weeks. And on Jan. 1, 2015, the subcontractor pay will also rise to the new minimum wage of $12 per hour.

"No person who works for the city or on a city contract should live in poverty either, and we must create ladders of opportunity," Nutter said.

It was not immediately clear how many workers would see the increase in pay.

This order coincides with an amendment to the Philadelphia City Charter, spearheaded by minimum wage advocate, city councilman W. Wilson Goode Jr., which would provide a permanent minimum wage as well as health benefits for subcontractors, including the much-maligned and outspoken airport workers. The airport workers currently work for an average of $7.85 per hour. This amendment is framed as a ballot question on the May 20 primary election.

Quoted

"We don't want to be the poorest big city in the nation anymore."

Royster

Dwayne Royster, executive director of POWER, called the order "commendable," but "it is not a replacement for ballot question No. 1, which will appear on the May 20 ballot and would, in essence, make this executive order permanent."

There have been several calls for a statewide raise to the minimum wage to no avail. The state minimum wage is currently set at $7.25 an hour.

President Barack Obama has pushed for the federal government to set the minimum wage as opposed to the individual states, but his plan has yet to win support from Congress.

"While I still hope that there will be movement at the federal level on the minimum wage, I couldn't wait," Nutter said.

The requirements

The following companies must pay the new minimum wage:

- Companies that receive city contracts for $10,000
- Companies that made more than $1 million from gross receipts

Airport workers speak

"I was very nervous about when and how much, but I'm just very relieved because it's been a battle. I felt like I was going uphill for a long time, like I was never going to come on down the side of the hill, but it's some light at the end of the tunnel."

Dawn Rivera

"I've only been with 32BJ for, like, roughly two, three weeks now, so all of this has been on a roll, and it's just, I know things don't normally work this fast ... but I know there is a lot more groundwork for us to do."

Michael Burrell Jr.

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Grindr. Man dead after date in Chester

Dino Dizdarevic, 25, was found dead Friday in a vacant lot in Chester was going on a date through Grindr, a gay hookup app, police said on Tuesday.

The cause of death was head trauma.

Dizdarevic lived in Spring Garden and was a chemical engineer in New Jersey.

Reports say that detectives found that Dizdarevic, who was last seen on Wednesday, had arranged a meeting with an unknown person on the Grindr smartphone app before turning up dead.

In April, a Canadian educator visiting town was held hostage and robbed by a man he met on Grindr. METRO

Dino Dizdarevic / FACEBOOK

Lecture series

Scholar, author Reza Aslan to speak at Drexel tonight

Reza Aslan, a religion scholar and best-selling author, will speak tonight at Drexel University as part of the College of Arts and Sciences' Distinguished Lecture Series.

Aslan was thrust into the limelight last year when he appeared on FoxNews.com's "Spirited Debate" to discuss his book "Zealot: The Life and Times of Jesus of Nazareth." Anchor Lauren Green repeatedly questioned how Aslan, a Muslim, could write a book about Christianity. That interview went viral.

Aslan will talk about his book at Drexel. He has also appeared on "The Daily Show" and "The Colbert Report."

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St. Joe's nursing school lawsuit continues

Money's worth. Students want tuition back from a nursing school.

Sybil White, 47, is still hoping to become a nurse some day. But first, she needs to get her $5,000 in tuition back.

"I passed the first semester fine. But then the second semester, teachers were going in and out," White recalled of St. Joseph's Hospital School of Nursing. "They told us our grades weren't good enough."

White and four other students sued the school in 2009 for breach of contract and fraud, claiming the school didn't provide an education, then expelled them. The lawsuit was dismissed in 2013 in part due to the school declaring bankruptcy.

But attorney Vivienne Crawford argued at an appeals hearing on Tuesday that the school was operated by North Philadelphia Health Systems, owner of St. Joseph's Hospital, and the lawsuit should continue against them. "I find it very suspicious that when we filed to amend [to sue NPHS], they go flying to file for bankruptcy."

NPHS did not respond to request for comment by press time.

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Not accredited

White and four other students say St. Joseph's School of Nursing offered an "accelerated" one-year R.N. diploma program to "non-traditional" students for $22,000 per year.

- They say classes were disorganized and supplies were scarce.
- They didn't realize the school was not accredited by the Board of Nursing.
- They want their tuition back.

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Fall

Man thrown off bridge by crash

A 27-year-old pedestrian was thrown 38 feet from the Walnut Street bridge to the road below after a car involved in a two-car collision struck him around 10 a.m. Tuesday near the intersection of 30th and Walnut streets.

A car heading south on 30th Street was broadsided by a car heading west, police said. One driver and the victim were in critical condition as of press time. METRO

Bordentown

Police chief shot in South Jersey

Bordentown, New Jersey, Police Chief Frank Nucera was shot in the leg Tuesday afternoon after an alleged altercation with a juvenile, reports say. The shooting occurred shortly before 3:45 p.m.

Burlington County Prosecutor's Office spokesman Joel Bewley told the Burlington County TImes that the "juvenile appears to be responsible for the discharge." METRO

Let wedding bells ring

David Kuo and Shiyi Gu walk out of City Hall on Tuesday after just getting married. / CHARLES MOSTOLLER, METRO

Two Convention Center unions refuse to sign

Be nice. Mayor Nutter said the unions workers' reputations for being rude are what led to the new deal.

Four out of six unions accepted a new labor deal with the Pennsylvania Convention Center, officials said Tuesday morning.

The electricians, laborers, stagehands and riggers unions signed the new deal, while the carpenters and teamsters did not. The Center had given the two outstanding unions until midnight Tuesday to accept the terms of the deal.

The sticking points of the new deal revolve around exhilarators having a larger hand in assembling their booths instead of using union workers.

Mayor Michael Nutter on Tuesday afternoon pointed to the union workers' reputation for being rude to guests at the Convention Center.

"When you're in the hospitality business, you have to actually be nice to people," Nutter said. "If you have a bad experience at a convention center, it is highly unlikely that you are going to come back."

The details

The two unsigned unions are under contract until May 10.

- Center officials claim the new rules may help lure more conventions to town, reports say.
- Underutilized hotel rooms are often cited as a residual effect of the Convention Center's poor numbers.

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Honoring the city's fallen heroes

The son and wife of Det. Gerard Traynor lay flowers at the annual Living Flame Memorial Service in Franklin Square on Tuesday, an event honoring all police officers and firefighters who have died in the line of duty. Traynor's name was added on Tuesday. / CHARLES MOSTOLLER, METRO

Interaction

Zoo shows off Big Cat Crossing

This morning, Philadelphia Zoo officials, along with Gov. Tom Corbett, will host a media preview of the zoo's newest feature — Big Cat Crossing — an animal travel and exploration system where visitors can see lions, tigers and more right above their heads.

Big Cat Crossing is a 330-foot mesh passageway that will extend from First Niagara Big Cat Falls to over the zoo's visitor path. Lions, tigers, pumas, snow leopards and more will walk through.

Big Cat Crossing will officially open to the public on Saturday. METRO

Double shooting

Two shot in Oxford Circle

A double shooting on the 6000 block of Castor Avenue around 3:30 p.m. on Tuesday left two men in Oxford Circle injured, with one shot in the left hand and one shot in the right calf, according to police. METRO

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Sign-up starts today for two-day bike ride to raise cancer funds

Ride to Conquer Cancer. The 150-mile ride will benefit programs at a Penn Medicine cancer center.

Registration opens today for this year's Ride to Conquer Cancer, a two-day, 150-mile bike ride whose fundraising efforts will benefit research, education and patient care programs at Penn Medicine's Abramson Cancer Center.

But don't be put off by the distance of the ride — it's not just for expert cyclists. There are pit stops along the way with food and drinks and also, an overnight camp midway with tents, hot meals, showers, live music, massages and more.

Linda A. Jacobs, director of the cancer survivorship program at the center, has already been fundraising and getting her own team together. She said that even current cancer patients as well as survivors and providers will be participating.

"They all feel very committed to raising money to support what they feel are important programs here," she said.

This fundraiser could actually turn into the Abramson Cancer Center's biggest one.

"This is two full days," said Jacobs, "where people work for months to get volunteers together and really boost morale around a common goal."

The bike ride is set for Oct. 11 and 12 and is slated to start in Philadelphia and go into the suburbs during the trek. Everyone is invited to join the bike ride. To register, donate or request information, visit www.ridetovictory.org or call 844-777-7433.

CHRISTINA PACIOLLA
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Anyone of any skill level can sign up. / PROVIDED

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Economy data

US trade gap narrows, but not enough to help GDP

The U.S. trade deficit narrowed in March as exports rebounded, but the improvement was probably not enough to prevent the government from revising its estimate of first-quarter growth to show a contraction.

The Commerce Department said on Tuesday the trade gap shrank 3.6 percent to $40.4 billion, broadly in line with economists' expectations. When adjusted for inflation, the deficit dipped to $49.4 billion from $49.8 billion in February.

March's shortfall, however, was a bit bigger than the $38.9 billion the government had assumed in its advance first-quarter gross domestic product estimate published last week. REUTERS

White House issues dire warning on climate change

Regions. There have been storm surges in the Northeast and both wildfires and water shortages in the Southwest.

Storm surges from Hurricane Sandy caused widespread flooding along costal areas of New York. / BILLY BECERRA, METRO

The Obama administration on Tuesday released an updated report on how climate change requires urgent action to counter impacts that touch every corner of the country, from oyster growers in Washington state to maple syrup producers in Vermont.

"Climate change, once considered an issue for a distant future, has moved firmly into the present," the report said.

Some environmental and public health groups hailed the National Climate Assessment as a possible "game changer" for efforts to address climate change, in part because it makes the impact less abstract to many Americans.

Scientists

240

More than 240 scientists contributed to the report.

"It will help put their own experiences in context, and we think that is important in generating interest and action on the issue," said Lyndsay Moseley, director of the American Lung Association's Healthy Air campaign.

The extensive report detailed how consequences of climate change are hitting on several fronts, including health, infrastructure, water supply, agriculture and especially in more frequent severe weather such as floods and droughts.

John Podesta, an adviser to President Barack Obama, said cabinet members will fan out across the country in coming weeks to discuss the report. REUTERS

Advisory committee

The advisory committee behind the report was established by the U.S. Department of Commerce.

- Thirteen departments and agencies, from the Agriculture Department to NASA, are part of the committee, which also includes academics, businesses and nonprofit organizations.
- The committee was formed to integrate federal research on environmental change and its implications for society. It made assessments in 2000 and 2009.
- An earlier draft, released in January 2013, was reviewed by the National Academies of Sciences.

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Armed pro-Russian militiants take position in the eastern Ukrainian city of Donetsk. / GETTY IMAGES

Ukraine slides toward war

Deadly fighting. The surge in violence has changed the tone of international diplomacy.

Both sides have been burying their dead as Ukraine slides further toward war, with supporters of Russia and of a united Ukraine accusing each other of tearing the country apart.

Tuesday morning was quieter than past days in eastern and southern Ukraine, but the deadliest week since the separatist uprising began has transformed the conflict, hardening positions and leaving little room for peace.

At the Holy Trinity Church, seven priests led mourners in prayer for a woman killed by large-caliber bullets, which the townspeople believe were fired by Ukrainian troops.

"They shoot at us. Why? Because we don't want to live with fascists?" asked 58-year-old passport photographer Sergei Fominsky, standing with his wife among the mourners.

A pro-Ukrainian activist, Andrey Biryukov, 35, was killed during a day that began with hundreds of pro-Russian sympathizers armed with axes, chains and guns attacking a Ukrainian march, and ended later that night with the pro-Russians barricaded inside a building that was set on fire, killing dozens. REUTERS

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New laws

Putin tightens curbs on protestors

While all eyes are turned to Ukraine, President Vladimir Putin has quietly enacted laws which opponents say will strengthen his hand in a battle against dissent in Russia.

Putin signed laws conceiving tougher punishment for people involved in riots and imposing life sentences for various "terrorist" crimes. He also approved tighter controls on bloggers, some of whom have emerged as opposition leaders and have used the Internet to criticize Putin.

The moves underline Kremlin concern that the unrest in Ukraine might encourage protests in Russia, even though the annexation of the Crimea peninsula from Ukraine has helped push Putin's ratings to their highest level since late 2010. REUTERS

Quoted

"All this tightening will be applied only for political ends."

Dmitry Gudkov, a member of parliament who helped organize rallies against Putin in several cities in the winter of 2011-12

US reports

Russian planes flew near California, Guam

The head of air forces in the Pacific said on Monday that Russia's intervention in Ukraine had been accompanied by a significant increase in Russian air activity in the Asia-Pacific region in a show of strength and to gather intelligence.

General Herbert "Hawk" Carlisle said the activity had included Russian flights to the coast of California, and around the Pacific island of Guam.

Carlisle said the number of long-range Russian patrols around the Japanese islands and Korea had increased "drastically." He said there had also been "a lot more ship activity as well."

Speaking at Washington's Center for Strategic and International Studies think tank, Carlisle showed a slide of a F-15 fighter jet intercepting a Russian "Bear" aircraft over Guam. He used the Cold War NATO name for Russia's Tupolov Tu-95 strategic bomber. REUTERS

A Russian Tu-95 Bear long-range bomber aircraft. / GETTY IMAGES

Drug makers. Bayer wins auction for Merck's $14B consumer unit

Germany's Bayer AG has trumped rival bidders for Merck & Co.'s consumer care business in a $14.2 billion deal, adding to a string of major crossborder deals in the health-care industry.

"This acquisition marks a major milestone on our path toward global leadership in the attractive non-prescription medicines business," Bayer's chief executive, Marijn Dekkers, said in a statement on Tuesday.

Merck, which is selling non-prescription brands,

ASPIRIN IS ALREADY A STRONG OVER-THE-COUNTER PRODUCT FOR BAYER.
GETTY IMAGES

said it expects after-tax proceeds of between $8 billion and $9 billion from the sale, which is expected to close in the second half of 2014.

The transaction, the largest in the German health-care industry since Bayer bought rival Schering for $24 billion in 2006, will make Bayer the world's second-biggest consumer health-care company, as it seeks to make better use of its distribution network and sales force.

"We can take these products and market them more forcefully than Merck has been able to do so far," Dekkers said in a conference call with analysts. REUTERS

Social media

Twitter shares slump as stock lock-up expires

Shares of Twitter slumped 15 percent to fresh lows in a flurry of trading on Tuesday after the expiration of a six-month "lock-up" period allowed early investors and insiders to offload their stock for the first time.

Twitter's shares slid throughout Tuesday morning and touched $33 on the New York Stock Exchange, a new low since their trading debut on Nov. 7, 2013, at $37. On a consolidated basis, 95 million shares had changed hands by afternoon trading — six times the average daily volume.

The lock-up agreement that expired this week applied to about 470 million shares, or 82 percent of Twitter's equity. REUTERS

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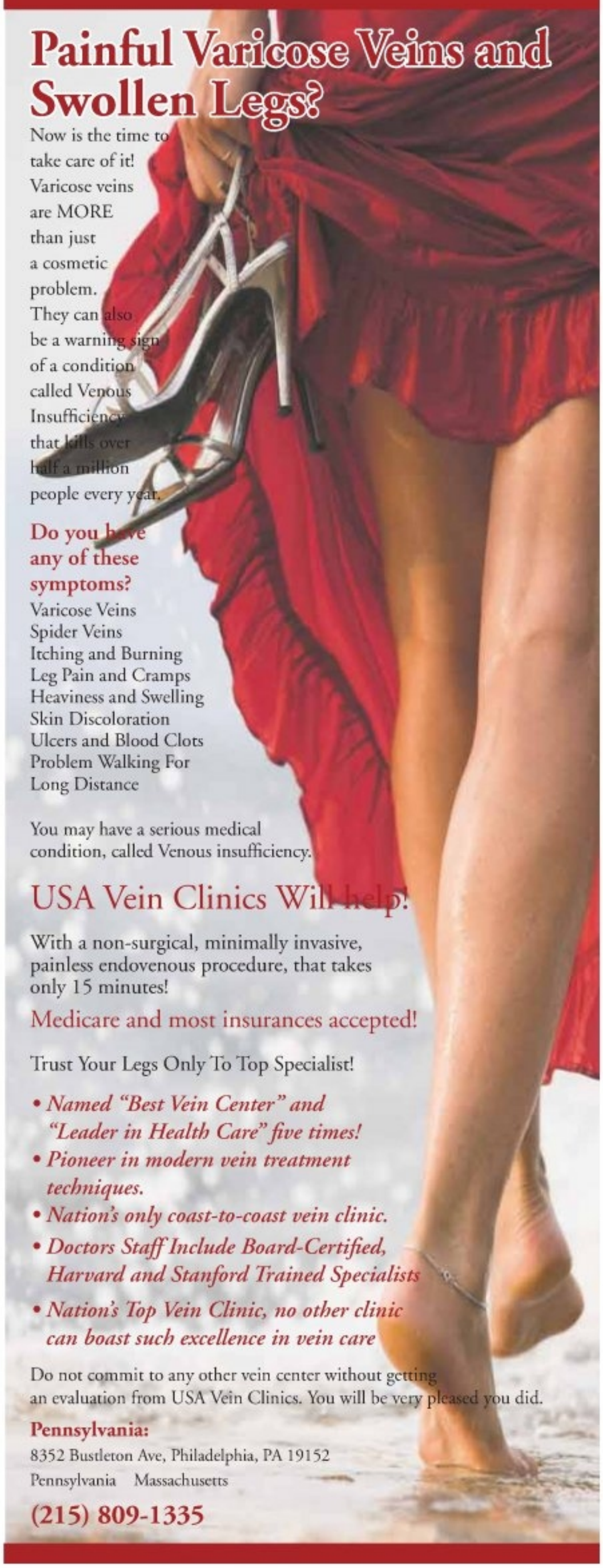
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Gunmen abduct eight more girls in Nigeria

Abduction. This follows the kidnapping of more than 200 schoolgirls last month.

Suspected Boko Haram gunmen kidnapped eight girls from a village near one of the Islamists' strongholds in northeastern Nigeria overnight, police and residents said on Tuesday.

Lazarus Musa, a resident of the village of Warabe, told Reuters that armed men had opened fire during the raid.

"They were many, and all of them carried guns. They came in two vehicles painted in army color. They started shooting in our village," Musa said by telephone from the village in the hilly Gwoza area, Boko Haram's main base.

A police source, who asked not to be identified, said the girls were taken away on trucks, along with looted livestock and food.

Boko Haram leader Abubakar Shekau threatened in a video released to the media to sell the girls abducted from a school on April 14 "on the market."

Kidnappings by the Islamists, who say they are fighting for an Islamic state, have shocked a country long inured to the violence around the northeast.

They have also embarrassed the government before a World Economic Forum meeting on Africa. REUTERS

People shout slogans to protest the abduction of Chibok school girls during a rally pressing for the girls' release in Abuja. / GETTY IMAGES

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Political turmoil

Thai court likely to force out prime minister

Thailand's Constitutional Court is almost certain to rule against Prime Minister Yingluck Shinawatra on abuse of power charges on Wednesday, forcing her from office and raising the possibility of fresh mass protests by her supporters.

That could lead to confrontation with anti-government groups which have been protesting in Bangkok for six months in a bid to topple Yingluck. Those demonstrations disrupted a general election in February that she had been expected to win.

The crisis broadly pits Bangkok's middle class and royalist establishment against the mainly poor, rural supporters of Yingluck and her brother, ex-premier Thaksin Shinawatra, who was ousted by the military in 2006 and now lives in exile to avoid a jail term handed down in 2008 for abuse of power. REUTERS

al Qaeda

Saudi Arabia foils terror cell plotting attack

Kuwait said on Tuesday it uncovered an al Qaeda-linked plan to bomb a U.S. Army camp and other "important facilities" in the OPEC oil exporting state.

"The state security has uncovered a terrorist network following al Qaeda, and includes six [Kuwaiti] citizens who have planned to carry out a plan to bomb Arifjan Camp, the state security building and other important facilities," the ministry said.

Camp Arifjan is located south of Kuwait City and serves as a staging ground for forces deploying in Iraq. REUTERS

The cell

6

An Interior Ministry statement said all six members of the al Qaeda-linked cell confessed after being arrested. It did not say if the targeted facilities included oil industry plants in Kuwait.

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Swine swap

Genome scientist in deal to make humanized pig organs

Genome pioneer J. Craig Venter is teaming up with a unit of United Therapeutics to develop pig lungs that have been genetically altered to be compatible with humans, a feat that, if successful, could address the urgent need for transplant organs for people with end-stage lung disease.

Venter's privately held company Synthetic Genomics Inc. on Tuesday said it has entered a multiyear deal with United Therapeutics' Lung Biotechnology Inc. to develop the so-called humanized pig organs.

The venture is intended to advance United Therapeutics' efforts to develop replacement organs grown in genetically altered pigs.

Prior efforts to use animal organs in people in need of a transplant, known as xenotransplantation, have failed because of differences in the genome that caused organ rejection and blood clots.

A future organ grower?
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By the numbers

400K

About 400,000 people in the U.S. die each year from various forms of lung disease.

2K

Only 2,000 people are saved each year with a lung transplant.

"Our new collaboration with Synthetic Genomics is huge for accelerating our efforts to cure end-stage lung disease," Martine Rothblatt, chairman and chief executive officer of Silver Spring, Maryland-based United Therapeutics, said in a statement.

Humans, pigs and most other mammals share about 90 percent of the same genes. What Venter's team will do is determine which aspects of the pig genome need to be altered to make porcine lungs compatible with humans, avoiding the rejection response that occurs even in human-to-human transplants.

"We're going to start with generating a brand new super-accurate sequence of the pig genome, and then go through in detail and compare it to the human genome," Venter, the founder and chief executive of Synthetic Genomics Inc., said in a telephone interview. REUTERS

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2 CULTURE

Twitter feed

Today, Chloe Grace Moretz could use some heels, Emma Bunton is freaking out about time, Kristin Chenoweth needs a nap and Justin Bieber is putting on a happy face.

@ChloeGMoretz: btw, i was 100% the shortest girl at the #MetGala

@EmmaBunton: It's my gorgeous little boys 3rd birthday, time is going too fast!

@KChenoweth: I'm so tired. Seriously.

@justinbieber: Smiling everyday.

Stars. Worst-dressed at The Met's costume gala

The Metropolitan Museum of Art's annual Costume Institute gala took place on Monday night in New York City and proved to us yet again that all stars are beautiful. But sometimes, even the beautiful ones make missteps. Here are our picks for worst-dressed of the evening (you might be surprised with the list).

1 Anyone who has seen "The Wolf of Wall Street" knows that **Margot Robbie** cuts an incredible figure, but you wouldn't know it from this dress. GETTY IMAGES

2 Oh, **Sandra Lee**. Who is the cruel, cruel person who told you this was a good idea? What did Governor Cuomo say before you stepped out? WIREIMAGE

3 I was all in favor of this gown until **Sarah Jessica Parker** turned around and boom: Oscar de la Renta signature, right in your face. Logos are so gauche. FILMMAGIC

4 It would have been nice if **Katie Holmes** would have brushed her hair — and chosen a dress that didn't make her look like a mash-up of a Disney princess/drunk sailor's wife/Wild West prostitute. FILMMAGIC

5 Dear **Elizabeth Olsen**: Johnny Weir called and he wants his outfit back. FILMMAGIC

6 I see what you did, **Lupita Nyong'o**. You bet one of your friends that you could wear anything and still be named best-dressed of the night. Well, I'm not buying it. That's a pretty good Tinker Bell meets Tiger Lily interpretation, though. GETTY IMAGES

THE WORD

Andrea Park takes on the world of gossip.

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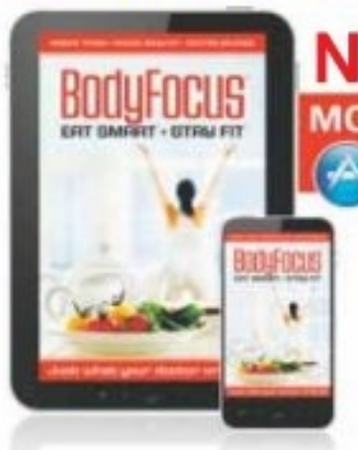

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BOLDFACE

A.D. AMOROSI

A.D. Amorosi is a journalist covering arts, entertainment and food news, as well as gossip. He can be reached at divaland@aol.com.

PROPOSALS, POP-UPS AND 'THE LAST BIG MAN'

With this, my first Boldface column for Metro, I welcome you to a world of gossip-worthy names you know, love, hate and love to hate, as well as names that you should get to know. If they're in boldface, they're crucial.

Philly's most famous abandoned property, North Broad Street's Divine Lorraine Hotel, should get a nice chunk of change ($30-plus million!) from New Jersey real estate mogul **Bill Procida** for local developer **Eric Blumenfeld**'s dream condo/retail project. The cash should come within the next two months.

The first public staged reading of Theater Exile's controversial "Rizzo" from Philly playwright **Bruce Graham** (based on ex-Inquirer scribe/ESPN reporter **Sal Paolantonio**'s 1993 "Frank Rizzo: The Last Big Man in Big City America") happened Monday at Studio X with Barrymore-winning local actor **Scott Greer** in the lead, plus **Pearce Bunting** ("Boardwalk Empire") and **Amanda Schoonover** in multiple roles, including the one portraying activist **Shelly Yanoff**. Not only was the real Yanoff in attendance, but a heated argument broke out between Graham and an angry audience member during the Q-and-A. "Rizzo," Exile's first commissioned work, will hit stages in 2015.

Henri David, far left, Paul Struck, in polka dots, and Elizabeth Coffey, far right, posed with winners of the Miller-Rothlein "Sinco di Miro" dance contest. / A. ORGERA

A highlight of last Saturday's South Street Spring Festival was a wedding proposal from **Freddie Pantalone**, 40, to **Erika Tartaglini**, 29. Pantalone made arrangements with South Street Headhouse District months ago for Bruno Mars' "Marry You" to play on loudspeakers while a flash mob of CAPA students danced around the groom-to-be. Thankfully, Tartaglini said yes.

East Passyunk Avenue chef **Chris Kearse** (Will) joins forces with Bar Ferdinand owner **Owen Kamihira** (who also just did interior designing for The Good King's Francophile nosh spot at 614 S. Seventh St.) for a pop-up meal with **David Ansill** at Bar Ferdinand on May 13.

Metro does not endorse the opinions of the author.

Seen on the scene

- Producer-turned-thespian **Rza** from Wu Tang Clan was at HipCityVeg promoting his upcoming movie, "Gang Related."
- New Kid on the Block's **Donnie Wahlberg** visited fiancee **Jenny McCarthy**'s comedy show at the Keswick.
- Expatriate Philly newsman **Chris Matthews** came home to host Fairmount Park Conservancy's seventh annual centennial celebration at the Horticultural Center.
- One-time Philadelphia DJ/producer **Diplo**'s best gal (after new girlfriend Katy Perry) **Iggy Azalea** signed autographs at Broad Street's FYE before packing TLA.
- Jeweler and Halloween party host **Henri David** was at the William Way Center to see life partner **Paul Struck** and John Waters' actress **Elizabeth Coffey** in Miller-Rothlein's dance company benefit "Sinco di Miro."

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The evolution of post-rock bad boys

Yes, Mogwai were named after the adorable little creature in "Gremlins." And they're adorable little creatures themselves, or at least "lovable scamps," aren't they? / STEVE GULLICK

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Rock democracy. Mogwai were once a "here for the beer" band, but they've matured over the years into dignified post-rock statesmen.

Scottish post-rock band Mogwai aren't much for words, but the instrumental post-rockers' "Rave Tapes," released in January, includes a spoken-word passage alleging that in Led Zeppelin's lyrics are satanic ciphers. It's a rerecorded but earnest warning from a Christian broadcast, whose announcer overlooked that singer Robert Plant was more into hobbits and hedgerows than Satan.

"Yeah, he's actually singing about hobbits," multi-instrumentalist John Cummings says, laughing. "There's plenty in Led Zeppelin's music that's ridiculous; you don't have to make up stuff."

Why sample something about Led Zep's penchant for the dark side at all? Well, once upon a time, Mogwai were known as bad boys of rock, mostly for the decibel-pushing volume of the band's instrumental epics, which had critics who saw their live shows fearing for their eardrums.

"We were young once," Cummings says, not without irony. "[Back then,] we just enjoyed what seemed like a lot of free beer. I don't think we're like that anymore. On the whole, we were just lovable scamps."

Over eight albums, Mogwai has preferred to make statements solely with their music rather than with, well, statements, i.e., lyrics. But considering they're scoring the European TV series "Les Revenants" and the "Zidane" biopic, lyrics or no lyrics, Mogwai have clearly grown up into dignified, post-rock elder statesmen.

"We're as much the last men standing as anything else. We just managed to keep going," Cummings says. "It seems strange that not more bands manage it. Hopefully, over time, you get to know how not to annoy other people as much as they get to know how not to annoy you. It's not that difficult to put up with each other, really."

That attitude applies to the band's music, too. Not having a vocalist or a lead guitarist or a dominating musical element has left Mogwai leaderless and truly democratic, creatively. Such flexibility has allowed the band to not only continue, but also evolve.

"In the beginning there was malleability in various areas because we were clueless," Cummings says. "When you don't know anything about it, you're more than happy to follow someone else's lead."

He says "clueless," but it seems more like they were wise enough to listen to each other. Cummings isn't so sure about that theory and has a more common-sense explanation: "That's sounds a bit grandiose," he says. "If you don't know what you're doing and someone else does, then, yeah, follow them."

Quoted

"Hopefully, over time, you get to know how not to annoy other people as much as they get to know how not to annoy you. It's not that difficult to put up with each other, really."

John Cummings, on how to make your band last forever

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Rough day? Whether your boss is claiming your ideas as his or her own or you dropped your smartphone in the toilet, there's one way to turn your luck around. Vino! Check out this guide for some top spots to wine down.

Yelpers say that Tria Taproom is nothing to whine about.
AALIYAH P., YELP

Bar Ferdinand

The pitcher of white wine sangria started us off, and I'm glad we chose it. Delightful, refreshing and the pomegranate berries gave it a pop of color.
JENNIFER M.

Tria Taproom

Nice wine list, average price around $8, with lots of different varietals. The whole draft wine concept is pretty awesome. ... The iPads are a fun way to choose your drink. You can see how much is left of each wine or beer.
CHRISTINE B.

Vintage Wine Bar

Love the happy hour here! They have really good drinks and appetizer specials. The chardonnay and the sangria was really fruity and refreshing. They have a really impressive wine menu and I wish I could taste test it all!
MAJLINDA K.

Jet Wine Bar

A wine bar with class, but not the attitude. It's a cozy bar with room just enough for the long bar. There are many regulars at this spot and the environment is extremely relaxed. This is heavily driven by the bartenders who are chill and easy-going.
CARTER P.

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Something new

Genre-bender

On 'Belle' as a twist on the Jane Austen film: I grew up watching 'Pride and Prejudice,' with Colin Firth, and 'Sense and Sensibility.' But we've not seen stories from this perspective before — not only from a woman's perspective, but also from a woman of color. And it's a British perspective of the slave experience. It deals with Britain's experiences of benefiting financially from the slave trade.

Mbatha-Raw gets to do the Jane Austen thing in "Belle." / FOX SEARCHLIGHT

Meet Gugu Mbatha-Raw

Mbatha-Raw plays an heiress in the historical costume drama "Belle." / GETTY IMAGES

Intros. The English actress hits the big time playing a real-life mixed-race heiress in "Belle."

On playing an obscure historical personage: There's a book coming out now, but there wasn't a lot of information about Dido at the time. We do know she lived in the house. There was a report by an American businessman who came to visit. We know she wasn't allowed to sit with them at the dinner table, but she'd come out after. This guy was completely shocked by that. We also know Lord Mansfield [master of the house she lived in] left her money in his will. That was pretty unusual at the time, to be held in such affection.

On using a painting of Dido as an influence: The painting was a big clue, where she's depicted in a sumptuous gown and she's looking directly at the viewer. She's not in a subservient position. She was relatively equal to [her cousin] Elizabeth in the painting. All those little pieces of detective work inspired the story.

On Dido having to skip out on social events: I think she repressed those daily humiliations. The racism that is depicted in the script is not the brutality we often see on the screen. It's more about the nuances of society, which can be just as painful, in a different way, on an emotional level. That scene where she's staring in the mirror after she's asked why she doesn't dine with the family — all of that inequality that she's been pushing down explodes.

On the film's portrait of female struggles: The marriage market in that period was ruthless. And yet Dido was financially secure. She could marry for love, she had an inheritance, unlike her cousin, who needed to find her financial security. I'm glad it's not as savage today, but this is still something that people deal with in different parts of the world. Arranged marriages and women's freedom and equality are still questions.

On the costumes: The costumes are so helpful as well. Wearing a corset certainly changes your posture entirely and gives you a whole different way of moving and using your physicality.

On Dido as a role model: I think it's important for biracial girls even now to be able to see themselves in history.

MATT PRIGGE
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ROSE BYRNE

The actress didn't want to play another nagging wife in "Neighbors."

SUPERBAD

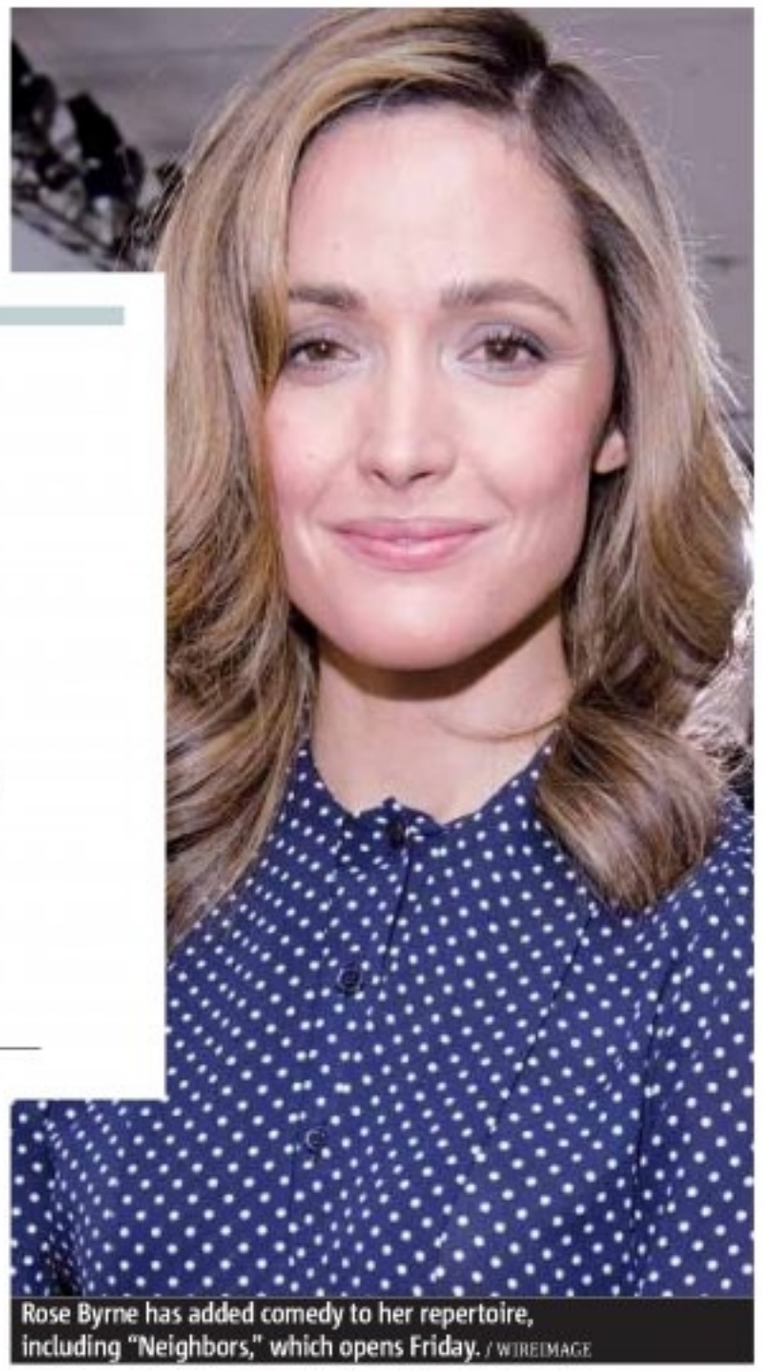
Frats aren't much of a thing in Australia, where actress Rose Byrne hails from. But that wasn't the hard part about doing "Neighbors," in which she and Seth Rogen play suburban parents whose lives are upturned when a frat moves in next door. For Byrne it continues her move into comedy, after a long stint doing mainly drama, like TV's "Damages," as well as the occasional horror ("28 Weeks Later," "Insidious"). In fact, she's been doing films like "Get Him to the Greek" and "Bridesmaids" for so long she might have forgotten how to be serious.

See more at www.metro.us

It's nice that you get to do your Australian accent for a change.
Initially I thought it would be too jarring. Then I thought it could work for the character, because Australians tend to have a wild streak. It's a big drinking culture. There's Irish and Scottish and English descent. And [my character] is so irresponsible. She's not willing to grow up.

She's also not the stereotypical killjoy wife of a manchild husband.
We really wanted to not make her the stock nagging wife. ... They even have a scene where they reference that, and he says, "You've got to be responsible, you're the woman" and that misogyny. I think it made for a funnier film.

This is a guy-heavy film.
I was the only woman on the set other than Lisa [Kudrow], our designer and our script supervisor. It was a lot of male energy. Listen, there's usually only one female role anyway, so it's not that weird. This is a comedy, but like a lot of these Apatow universe comedies, it's about a real anxiety, and it doesn't pick sides between the couple and the frat. ... But I really see Teddy [Zac Efron's frat leader character] as quite villainous. ... Our characters are more bumbling.



Rose Byrne has added comedy to her repertoire, including "Neighbors," which opens Friday. / WIREIMAGE

Q&A

Funny bones

Before "Get Him to the Greek," you were primarily known for doing serious work.
I'm still learning. I'm lucky to have been paired with Seth Rogen and Melissa McCarthy and Kristen Wiig and Maya Rudolph and Russell Brand — people who are brilliant and effortless at [improvisation]. Comedy is a lot of watching someone doing something ridiculous. But it's pretty technical.

The cliche is that comedy is harder than drama.
I think so. It's very hard. It's just as difficult to tap into that side of your brain.

Do you miss drama?
I haven't done something dramatic for a while. I don't know if I even can anymore. [Laughs.]

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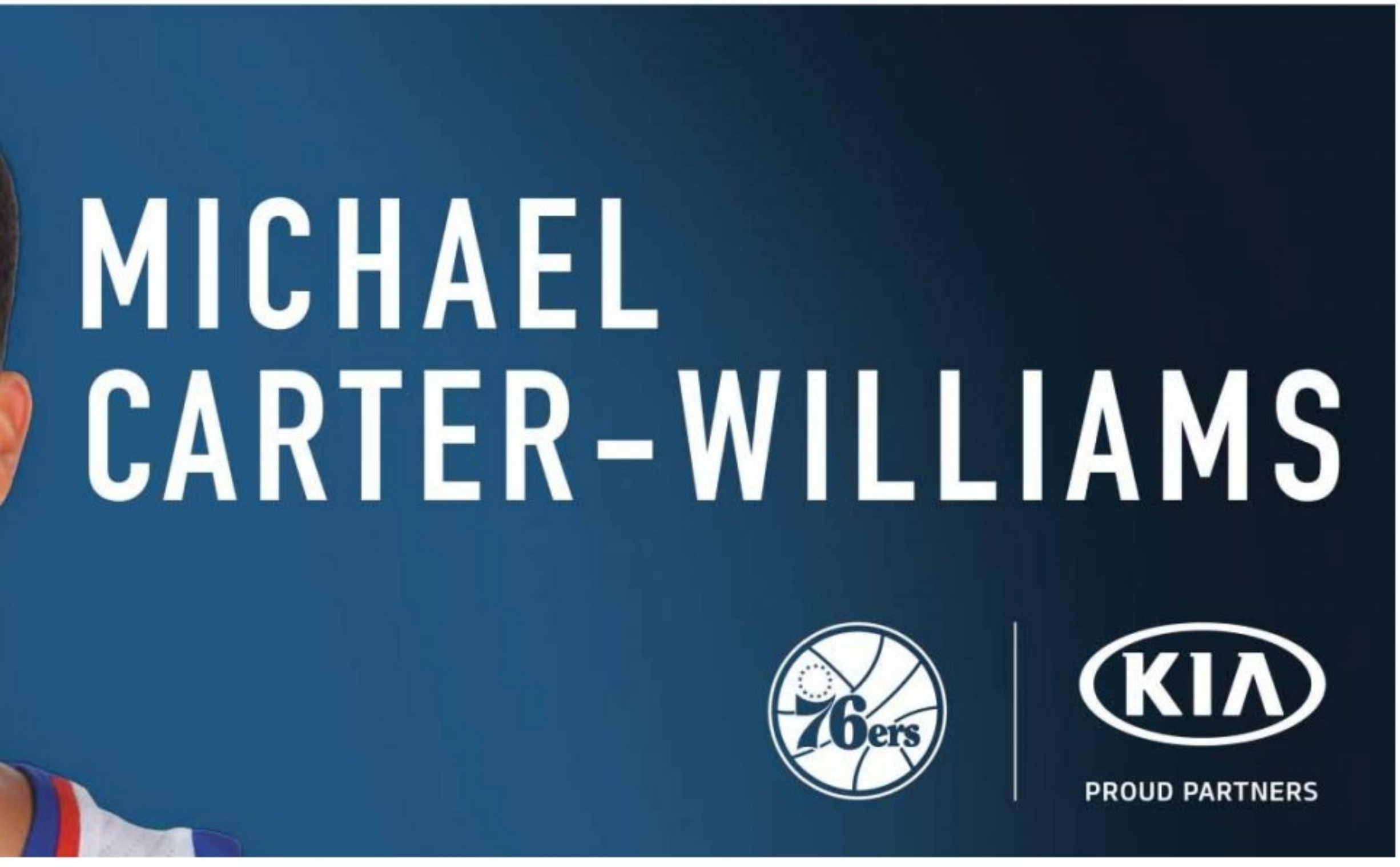

PLUS

Cubed

Sunny sips

What to serve al fresco this summer? When we'd rather mingle outside than muddle in the kitchen, we're loving Sauza's new ready-to-pour sparkling margaritas (www.sauzatequila.com). The only thing we'd add: Kikkerland's reusable anchor ice cubes ($5 for 6, www.kikkerland.com).

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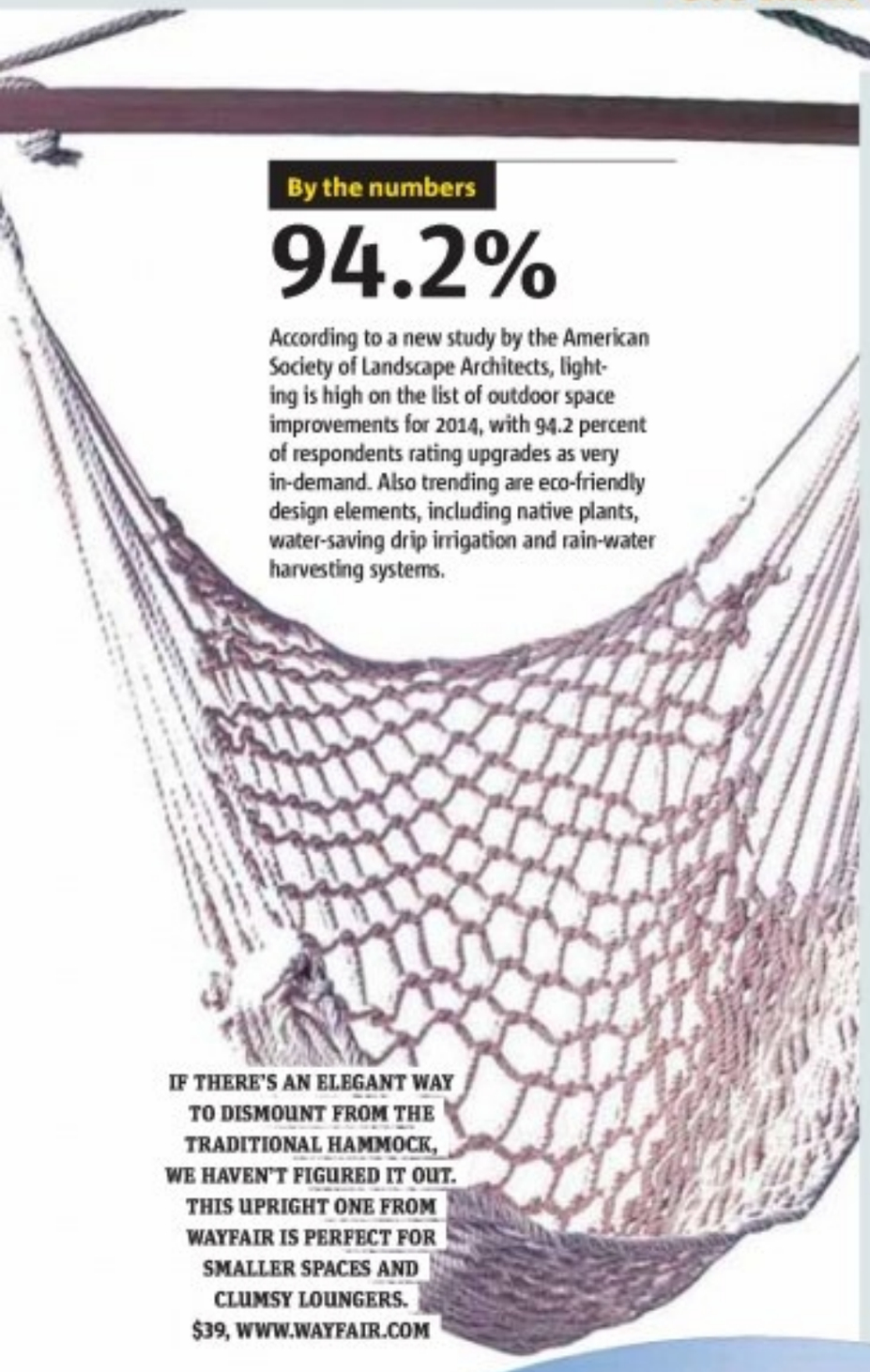

By the numbers

94.2%

According to a new study by the American Society of Landscape Architects, lighting is high on the list of outdoor space improvements for 2014, with 94.2 percent of respondents rating upgrades as very in-demand. Also trending are eco-friendly design elements, including native plants, water-saving drip irrigation and rain-water harvesting systems.

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Released this week, six styles ranging in price from $2,195 to $2,995 are available to borrow for $275 to $325.

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Origins. New program lets you trace back ancestry 1,000 years

Humanity has long wondered where in the heck we come from. Sure, we've all heard rumblings of Bedrock or seen the first 40 minutes of "2001: A Space Odyssey." However, it's all conjecture. There is no way to actually know, right? Well, hold onto your clubs and dinosaur skins, now there is — sort of.

Scientists at the University of Sheffield in the U.K. have developed a new kind of GPS — Geographic Population Structure — that leads you to where your ancestors originally hail from. The technique cross-references your DNA with world population over time to ascertain where, down to the village, your forebears hailed from, as well as where they met the partners that eventually spawned you.

The technology is only accurate to the first 1,000 years, so all of you wondering what your weird relatives were up to in ancient Egypt are out of luck.

LAWRENCE BONK

Trace life's history with the new Geographic Population Structure. / THINKSTOCK

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If you're lucky, the hardest thing you'll ever have to do is quit smoking. Not everyone realizes this. There's a terrible stigma that comes with cigarettes, one so severe that those who pass laws — raising taxes on them, outlawing them from public spaces, even banning e-cigarettes — don't seem like they've ever had to deal with a serious and crippling nicotine addiction. On top of that, everyone acting like a jerk about it really only makes you want to have a cigarette.

But apps care. Apps will help you. Granted,

Quit It tracks how long you've been cigarette-free. / PROVIDED

apps aren't the same as nicotine gum, patches or lozenges, which help you wean yourself slowly off of a habit that dominates your every waking moment. (Apps also aren't cigarettes — delicious, wonderful, soothing cigarettes.) But two apps help build up your willpower and your mind (and eventually your body, which will be happy you've given up the smoke).

Of course, both are heavy on the guilt trips.

Get overly nice motivational slogans with Kwit. / PROVIDED

Quit It is a sparse, if not bare bones, program that measures your returning health as well as the money you're saving from the moment you've given up smoking. In fact, it measures this in seconds, with a counter at the top. It not only tracks the tar that's no longer inside you; it has charts that track your blood pressure returning to normal and your declining risk of a sudden heart attack and those four wonderful words, "cancer of the mouth," as well as your reviving circulation.

Quit It can be pretty heavy, especially if you have an unhealthy fear of death. Kwit is gentler, or at least more passive-aggressive. It has less information than Quit It — which isn't entirely scientific, since you log in without doing a physical — but it's more stylish, treating it like a game and giving you a notice when you've made specific achievements (like having your heart rate return to normal). It also shoots out motivational slogans at your command, which are almost positive to a fault.

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(But, remember, he wasn't always an old ugly man - once, he was just ugly)

'The Subway Guy.' Jared Fogle is still spreading his success story

Remember Jared Fogle from Subway's TV spots in 2000? Well he's still a brand ambassador who travels worldwide to encourage healthy eating. We checked in with "The Subway Guy."

Jared's proud to say that he not only lost 200-plus pounds, but he's kept it off for 16 years with the help of Subway. / COURTESY OF SUBWAY

What are you up to now?
It's my 16th year at Subway. I travel almost 200 days a year, all over the world, sharing my story. A big part of that is speaking at schools. I try to inspire kids; hopefully they'll learn things not to do when growing up. I'm still eating Subway a couple of times a week.

Do you advocate the diet that helped you succeed?
I had a unique situation. I was 425-plus pounds; I needed to find a way to get that weight off. For me it was eating Subway twice a day. I know what I did was a little bit extreme. But I found what was working for me. You need to find out what works for you.

Ever get sick of Subway?
No, I don't. I've always loved sandwiches and I've loved Subway since I was a kid. I love knowing how many calories I'm taking in — that when you put the sandwich and the chips in front of me, I can finish the whole thing and not feel guilty.

Do people still recognize you on the street?
No matter where I go these days, people get a kick out of it. A lot of people don't even know my last name. They just call me "Jared the Subway Guy." I'm not a celebrity, I'm well known because of my weight loss. It's surreal to think that I'm a part of pop culture.

What's changed at Subway over the years?
They added new sizes and vegetables. They added low-fat or fat-free sauces. The big part of the Subway success is that they continue to evolve. They listen to costumers. That's why Subway is still as popular as ever. T. MICHELLE MURPHY

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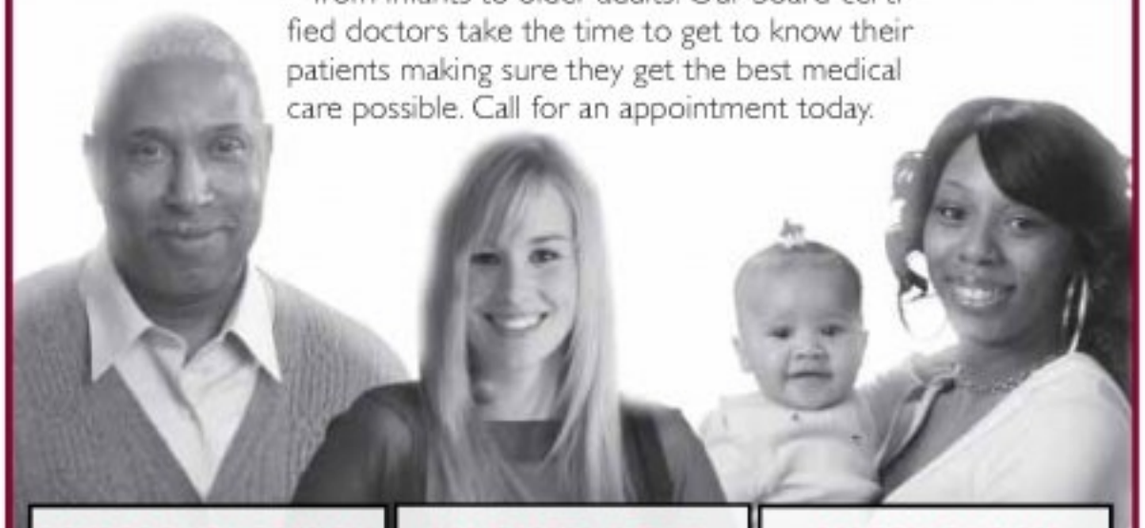

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Achoo! It's not too late to combat your springtime allergies

The health buzz-term of the season — the pollen vortex — is a result of the high number of tree pollens being released after winter. But Dr. Raymond Dattwyler, New York Medical College's Chief of Clinical Immunology, Allergy and Rheumatology, thinks that media and drug companies are just instilling fear.

"Every spring there are articles saying this will be the worst season ever. It's always sensationalized. March was cold, so pollen counts were low. They got higher at the end of April. They were high but not extraordinary."

However, the doctor says that the overall incidence of allergies is growing, which means the incidence of spring allergies, and more people are suffering symptoms. Here are his tips for dealing with yours.

Get the right meds

OTC or prescription drugs can provide relief, but sometimes the big guns are needed. "Your doctor can help with a prescription for a steroid nasal spray," Dattwyler says.

Cut down on antibiotics

"We're changing our natural body flora and that makes you more allergic," the doctor says.

Use a neti pot

Doing so "can lessen the pollen," he says.

LINDA CLARKE
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See more at
www.metro.us
Tip
Don't stress
"Stress is bad for the immune system. The stronger the immune system, the more long-term allergies lessen," Dattwyler says.

The American Lung Association "State of the Air 2014" report found the Philly area's annual particle pollution levels tied for 11th most polluted area nationwide in terms of year-round particle pollution. The Philly area stretches beyond Philadelphia proper, encompassing 16 counties over four states. / ZOONAR

Meds

New hope

Merck has two newly FDA-approved sublingual (taken under the tongue) drugs: Ragwitek, for fall's ragweed pollen allergies (August to November), and Grastek, for grass pollen allergies, which occur later in summer. Treatment for both begins at least 12 weeks before the expected onset of the season. Similar spring allergy vaccines are useful, says Dattwyler, "but take time to work and it's already too late for this season."

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Horoscope

♉ Taurus | April 21-May 21. Someone will be overly sensitive. Don't waste time on a no-win situation. Move on to more valuable projects.

♊ Gemini | May 22-June 20. You will be in a celebratory mood today. Get out and party, or find other ways to share your happiness.

♋ Cancer | June 21-July 22. Finish any incomplete paperwork and tie up loose ends regarding investments, health issues or legal matters. The less you leave to chance, the better you will feel about the future.

♌ Leo | July 23-Aug. 22. It's a good day to take part in networking functions and mingle with your peers. You will make new allies.

♍ Virgo | Aug. 23-Sept. 22. You may be inundated with conflicting information. If someone is pressuring you, back away and take time to think things over.

♎ Libra | Sept. 23-Oct. 22. Love and romance will put a smile on your face. Plan a little surprise for someone you enjoy spending time with. Your kind gesture will pay off.

♏ Scorpio | Oct. 23-Nov. 21. A family member may not be interested in your plans. Give him or her space, and carry on with your agenda.

♐ Sagittarius | Nov. 22-Dec. 21. A seminar, lecture or special-interest group will provide the information and stimulation you desire. Travel to an unfamiliar destination.

♑ Capricorn | Dec. 22-Jan. 20. Before making a financial decision, consult with the people who will be affected by the choice you make.

♒ Aquarius | Jan. 21-Feb. 18. You will be restless. Plan a day trip or learn something new that can enhance your professional future. Don't be afraid to share your feelings.

♓ Pisces | Feb. 19-March 20. Get ready for a challenge. Proceed with creative plans that you've been considering. You'll get the backing you need.

♈ Aries | March 21-April 20. Get back on course with your health. Start with a nutritional diet. If you feel good, you will excel.

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Sudoku: Easy and hard

5	4			6				2
			2				4	
				5		6		3
		1		3	4	7		
	2		9		7		5	
		8	1	2		9		
3		5		1				
	7				3			
2				9			6	7

4		8	6	7				
1							7	
7	6		5			9	3	4
	4							7
			2		6			
5							4	
3	7	4			8		6	1
	1							3
				1	4	7		8

How to play
Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

Letters

The sand's getting hot, so don't bury your head in it

Re: 'Climate confusion' (Metro, May 2) I'm confused as to why there is still "climate confusion." I just read the latest National Climate Assessment report, which was released today. There is undeniable evidence that the average temperature of the Earth continues to rise, resulting in, among other things, longer and drier droughts and more frequent and severe storms. People can pretend these problems don't exist, but doing so won't make the problems go away — just like pretending terrorism and national debt don't exist won't make those two problems go away, either.

CARL HANSON, VIA EMAIL

Behold, the vampire Levine

Re: 'Levine looks like every platinum blond who ever lived' (Metro, May 6) Loved the article on Adam's hair — he almost looks like Tom Cruise in "Interview with a Vampire" — it is that high a creep factor!

RENEE VIENS, VIA EMAIL

letters@metro.us

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Crossword

Across

1 Not "pro"
5 Hazardous gas
10 Trunk cover
14 Ponce de —
15 Deep black
16 Ersatz butter
17 During
18 Singer Paula --
19 Elec. or gas
20 Like instant cocoa
22 Diva, maybe
24 Magna -- laude
25 A Bobbsey twin
26 Raised ridges
29 Ailurophobe's fear
32 — Marie of "Lovergirl"
36 Lotion additive
37 Riata
39 Twice DI
40 Stem cell guru (2 wds.)
43 Vane dir.
44 Heir's legacy
45 Almost never
46 Fixes a sock
48 Soyuz destination
49 Chile-Argentina border
50 Handy abbr.
52 Elev.
53 Yellow fruits
57 Washington river
61 Nonsense poet
62 Earthmover
64 Warrior princess
65 Handel contemporary
66 Throws off heat
67 Mosque figure
68 Nailed at a slant
69 Portable home
70 Sheepfold

Down

1 Woeful cry
2 Verne captain
3 Elbow grease
4 New Hall-of-Famer
5 Domain
6 Xavier's ex
7 Cabinet div.
8 Unwelcome obligation
9 Drip-dry fabric
10 Ludlum's "The — Identity"
11 Banff's prov.
12 Harness part
13 Serbian folk dance
21 Route follower
23 Ms. LaBelle
26 Carried on, as a campaign
27 Ms. Verdugo
28 Solitude enjoyer
29 Cholla and nopal
30 Districts
31 Salon rinses
33 Do editing
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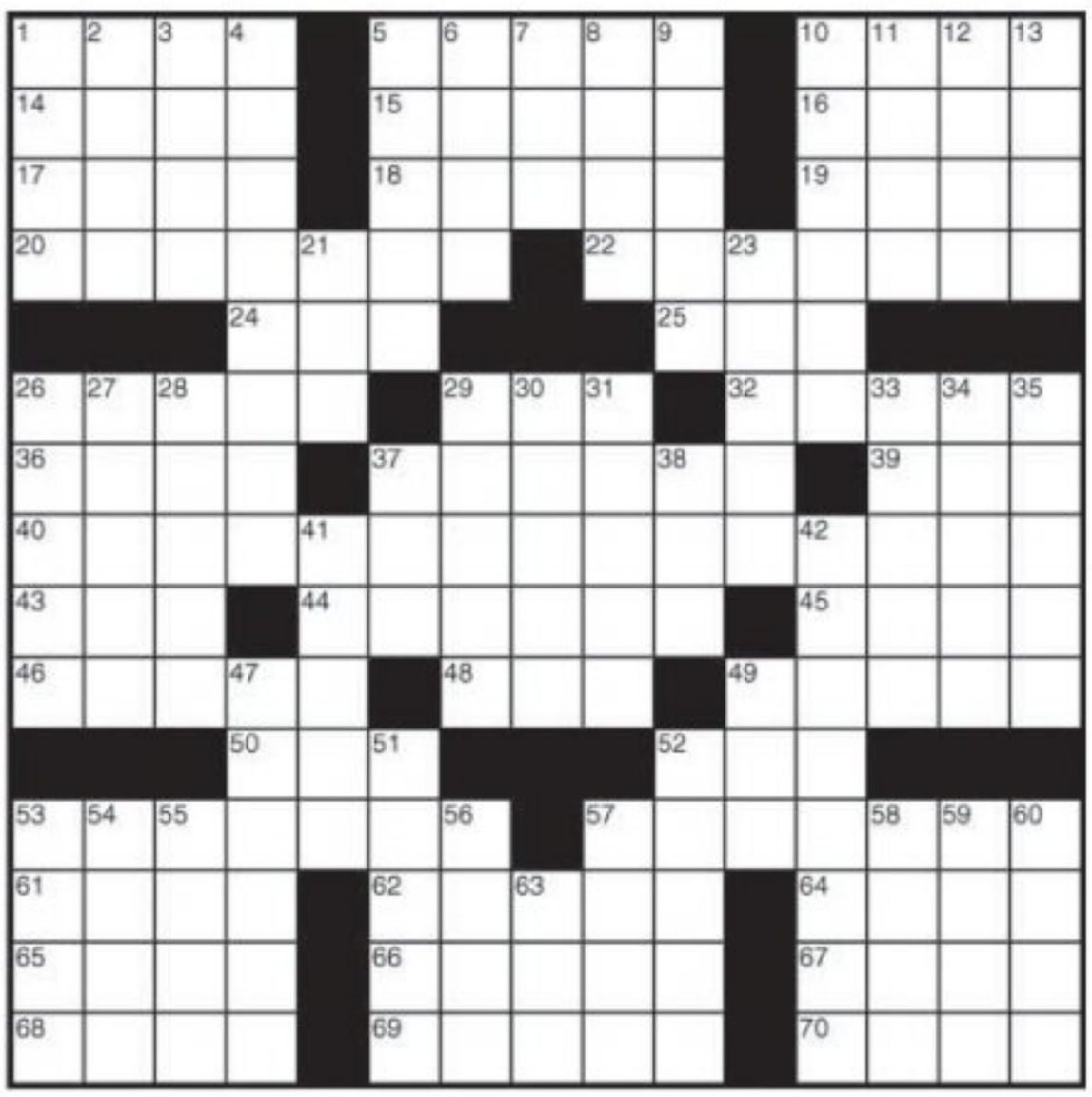

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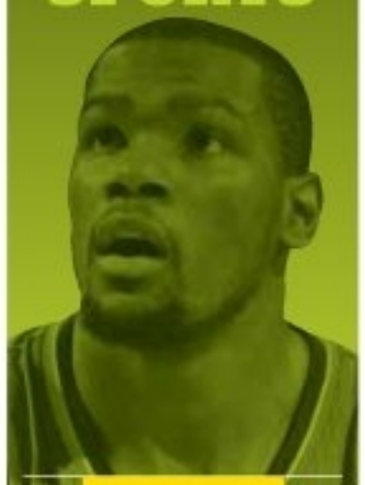

New top dog

Durant wins first MVP award

After winning his fourth scoring title in five seasons and leading the Oklahoma City Thunder to a 59-23 record in 2013-14, forward Kevin Durant won his first-ever NBA MVP award, taking 115 votes and topping back-to-back MVP winner LeBron James by a sizable margin.

Phils' Kendrick just can't catch a break

MLB. The Phillies are floating around at the .500 mark even though bad luck has struck a few key players.

Kyle Kendrick has been consistently good for the Phillies, yet has still consistently lost. / GETTY IMAGES

It isn't surprising that over the course of a 162-game regular season, a big-league team experiences several slumps, as well as hot streaks.

But several key Phillies have been particularly subject to some tough luck of late.

First is pitcher Kyle Kendrick, who has lost each of his last eight decisions including a 3-0 loss Monday night to the Toronto Blue Jays. This dates all the way back to Aug. 6 of last year — a long way to go without a win.

"He's pitched better than that," Phillies manager Ryne Sandberg said, referring to Kendrick's losing streak, the longest for a Phillie since Brad Lidge in 2009. "He has been better than the record shows. I wouldn't call that a slump at all. He just needs to keep going out there and battling."

Kendrick has allowed three earned runs or less in five of his last six starts and has received just 2.39 runs of support during the streak, the fifth-lowest run support in the majors. Talk about bad luck.

"Records are out of your control sometimes," Kendrick said. "You want to go out there, take the ball and give your team a chance to win."

Freddy Galvis is another Phillie looking to buck recent trends. Though the utility man started and did get a base hit against the Jays on Monday, his batting average stands at .056.

"He's getting some at bats," Sandberg said. "He just came up short."

Galvis filled in for Jimmy Rollins on Monday, who was out with tenderness in his knee. But if the sharp-fielding infielder wants to stay on the big-league roster he needs to find some sort of offensive game.

As a whole, there's one more slump that's a head-scratcher. Since 2012, the Phillies are an anemic 13-26 in interleague play (as of Monday night). Phillies pitchers have posted the 28th-worst ERA in the majors against the American League.

The pitching staff did a good job keeping the Phillies in the game, but the offense again came up empty. "When you give up three runs against the Blue Jays, it's big," Ben Revere said after Monday's loss, "They're a powerhouse team, with that lineup, but their pitching shut us down."

Playing at home

If the Phillies want to compete for an NL East title they had better win at home.

- The Phillies have a sub-.500 record at home, and a winning record on the road.
- Philadelphia will play 14 out of 17 games at Citizens Bank Park between May 13 and 31.

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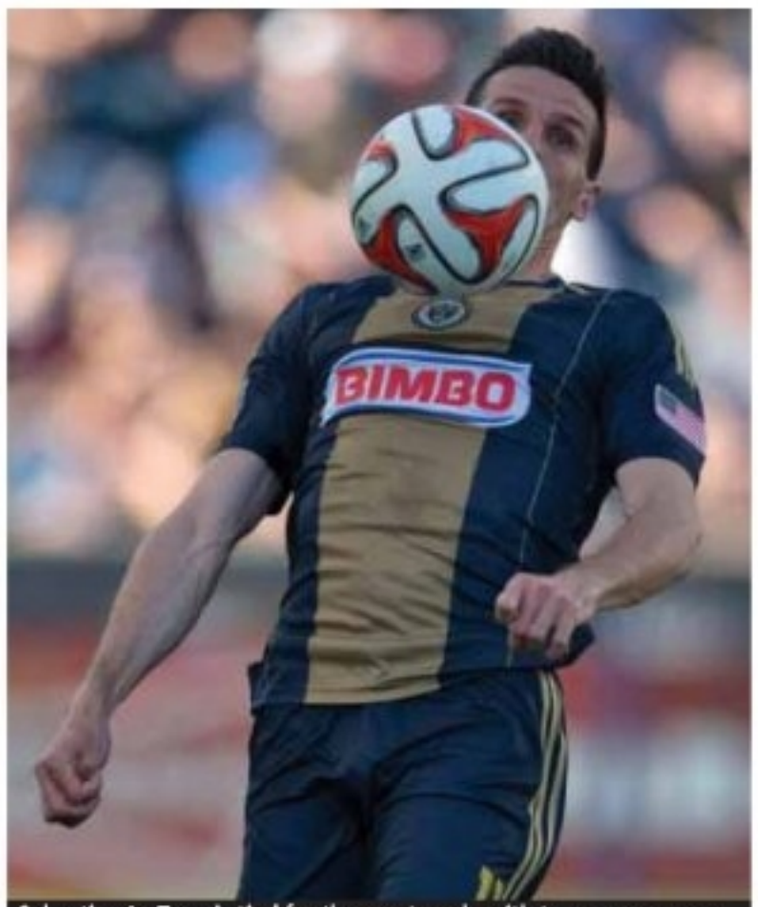
Sebastien Le Toux is tied for the most goals with two. / GETTY IMAGES

Union still looking for answers

MLS. The Union have been unable to muster much of a spark on offense in recent games.

After a promising start to the season, the Union (1-4-5) seem to have hit a wall. The team's netted just two goals in their past four matches and they haven't had a victory since March 15.

While the defense has held pretty strong all season, the club is desperately in search of offense. They're averaging just one goal per game as Leo Fernandes, Sebastien Le Toux and Maurice Edu are tied for the club lead in goals scored with just two. The MLS leader in goals, Seattle Sounders FC's Clint Dempsey, has eight.

Still, the Union are just three points out of the fifth seed in the Eastern Conference. A win this weekend against fifth-seeded D.C. United (3-3-2) will put them right back in the mix.

"We just have to keep plugging away and hopefully we can get some luck on our side," said Union defender Amobi Okugo. "I feel like the defense has a good game and the offense struggles or the offense has good game and the defense struggles. We just have to have a complete performance from both sides."

The Union nearly beat Sounders FC (6-2-1), arguably the best team in the MLS, this past weekend. They held a 1-0 lead at the half before allowing two second-half goals to fall 2-1. Le Toux said the feeling in the locker room is a lot of discouragement at the moment.

"Disappointment was the feeling right after the game, it's just very frustrating," said Le Toux. "I thought we played well, but a mistake here and there cost us the game. There's a little bit of frustration and disappointment, but we have to move forward."

United is led by forward Fabian Espindola, who's tied for ninth in the MLS in scoring with four goals. The Union will look to key in on him on the defensive end and try for their first win in the month of May.

The game airs at 4 p.m. this Saturday, on The Comcast Network.

JEFF MCMENAMIN
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Power outage

What happened to the Union's offense?

Through the first 10 games last season, forward Jack McInerney netted seven goals for the Union. He ended the season ranked eighth in the MLS in scoring with 12. Now he is a member of the Montreal Impact and leaves a major void.

Conor Casey hasn't contriubted much offense. / GETTY IMAGES

Conor Casey added an additional 10 goals, seven of which came from matches in June to August. He ranked just below McInerney at 16th.

The next closest player on the team was Le Toux with three.

Casey has just two starts in 2014 and zero goals. JEFF MCMENAMIN

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Attendance drop

Phillies fans staying home

Back in 2012, there was not a single game that saw Phillies attendance drop below 30,000.

Just 14 games into 2014, there have been eight such occasions, with total attendance down nearly a third.

METRO

MLB power rankings | by Ryan Hannable

No. 1

Brewers (22-11)

Another week, another stay at the top for the Brewers. Losers of four of its last six games, it just goes to show how dominant Milwaukee has been this season to still have the most wins in the entire league. The Brew Crew will be put to the test this weekend with an interleague series against the Yankees.

No. 2

Giants (21-11)

San Francisco is playing some of the best ball in the NL. It has won nine of its last 10 to open up a two-game lead in the NL West. They'll will be without Matt Cain, as he was placed on the 15-day DL.

No. 3

Rockies (20-14)

Plenty of people are starting to jump on the Rockies bandwagon as they've scored an NL-leading 193 runs this season. They do need a dependable starter to eventually emerge to go along with Jorge de la Rosa, however.

No. 4

Athletics (19-13)

Along with a powerful offense, starter Sonny Gray has been lights out at the top of their rotation, going 4-1 with an ERA of 1.91. They remain the best team in the entire American League.

No. 5

Tigers (18-9)

The Tigers' plus-29 run differential is the second-best in the American League. During their recent win streak, the Tigers scored at least five runs in four of five games.

No. 6

Nationals (18-14)

Winning six of their last 10, combined with the losing streak by the Braves, the Nationals have climbed the ladder to first in the NL East. Their offense averages 4.28 runs per game.

No. 7

Dodgers (18-15)

The Dodgers are 12-6 on the road this season, but just 6-9 at Chavez Ravine. L.A. owns the sixth-best offense in the NL and the eighth-best team ERA. They'll wrap up a 10-game road trip, then host their division rivals, the Giants.

No. 8

Rangers (17-15)

It's been an up-and-down year for the Rangers with many peaks and valleys. Texas' offense has been a bit inconsistent as they've managed to score three runs or less five times in the last eight games.

No. 9

Cardinals (17-16)

Sitting just one game over .500 isn't where the defending NL champions want to be. After leading the league in runs per game with 4.83 last season, they've averaged just 3.61 this year.

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3 Reasons MCW is Rookie of the Year

Michael Carter-Williams may have cemented the Rookie of the Year award on opening night.

MCW opened his NBA career against the Miami Heat and nearly compiled a quadruple-double against the two-time defending champions. Magic Johnson even tweeted that Carter-Williams was going to be a special player.

Throughout the 19-win season, Carter-Williams had his share of ups and downs. For the 11th overall pick, it proved to be the right choice for the rebuilding 76ers.

"By opening night, it was clear to us that Michael belonged," Sixers GM San Hinkie said in a statement. "This award marks a lifetime of hard work, from Hamilton to St. Andrew's, and Syracuse to the Sixers. "We congratulate him on this unique achievement and look forward to helping him put in the work necessary to garner even greater success in the future."

Carter-Williams was named the NBA Rookie of the Year, joining Allen Iverson (1996-97) as the only 76ers to win the award in franchise history. Carter-Williams earned 104 out of a possible 124 first place votes.

Orlando Magic guard Victor Oladipo was awarded 16 first-place votes. Brooklyn's Mason Plumlee (two), Utah's Trey Burke (one) and New York's Tim Hardaway Jr. (one) were the only other players to garner at least one first-place vote.

MCW was the runaway winner and it was the right call. Here are three reasons why:

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1 Right from the start

Carter-Williams was immediately plugged into the starting lineup and he contributed right away. That's not easy for a young point guard, especially when the talent was not great around him.

It was better before the Sixers traded Spencer Hawes and Evan Turner. Carter-Williams had the ball in his hands quite a bit and he put up solid numbers across the board.

He was far from perfect but who could be on this team? MCW showed a mental toughness night in and night out because enduring a league-tying 26 straight losses could not have been easy.

MCW wanted the basketball in his hands and that says something about his makeup.

CARTER-WILLIAMS IS THE SECOND 76ER TO BE NAMED ROOKIE OF THE YEAR.

2 Optimism

Carter-Williams made the most of a difficult situation.

This is a player who's used to winning — he guided Syracuse to the Final Four as a sophomore.

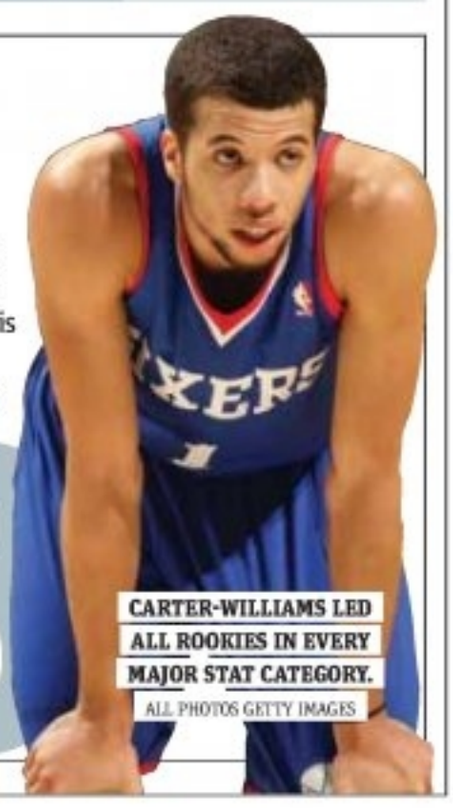
Winning less games as a rookie with the Sixers had to be gut-wrenching. He never let it bother him. Quite the contrary. MCW kept coming to work and improving, along with his teammates.

If he can survive this type of season, he'll be so much tougher when the Sixers start to get better.

3 Most improved player

MCW improved in virtually every aspect of his game from opening night to game No. 82. His defense had especially improved by the end of the season.

He stayed open to coaching and criticism, and it was evident on the court. While there are things he will need to get better at, improvement is key. Players who get better are open to coaching.



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Compensation may be provided for time and travel.

Health insurance is not needed to participate.

Please contact
Rosemarie Pharo at
Society Hill Dermatology
215.351.0251
SHDCRC@gmail.com

Have you been diagnosed with post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD)? Are you still suffering frequent and severe symptoms?

If you or someone you know is currently suffering from PTSD, you/they may be interested in taking part in a clinical research study looking at a potential new treatment (an investigational medication) for adults with PTSD. The study is looking at whether the investigational medication improves the symptoms of PTSD when added to a commercially available, approved medication.

To be able to take part in this study, you must:
- be 18–65 years of age (inclusive)
- have been diagnosed with PTSD and still have frequent and severe symptoms
- have been experiencing PTSD symptoms for at least 3 months.

The event that triggered your symptoms must have occurred within the past 15 years.

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If you would like to help us evaluate a potential new treatment for PTSD by taking part in this study, please contact

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LEGAL NOTICES

Legal Notices

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
COUNTY OF RICHLAND
THE ESTATE OF
WILLIAM SMITH, JR.
IN THE PROBATE COURT
FIFTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
Docket No.: 2012-ES-40-547
NOTICE OF RIGHT TO DEMAND HEARING

As an interested person in the above Estate, you are hereby notified that the documents necessary to close this Estate have been or are now being provided to you. These documents are the full Accounting (if applicable) for this Estate, the Proposal for Distribution (if applicable), and the Application for Settlement. The Personal Representative is required to file with the Court proof that these documents and this Notice have been sent to you.

From the date this proof is filed with the Court, **YOU HAVE THIRTY (30) DAYS TO DEMAND IN WRITING A HEARING** (use FORM 113ES) concerning any matter included in these closing documents.

If you do not file **WITH THE COURT** written demand for hearing (on FORM 113ES) within this time period, the Court may enter such orders on such conditions as may be requested and as the Court deems appropriate.

If you do file a written demand for hearing (use FORM 113ES) within this time period, a hearing date will be set, and Notice of Hearing will be sent to you.

The address of the Court is:
Richland Probate Court
P.O. Box 192
Columbia, SC 29202
Executed on April 9, 2014.

Personal Representative:
Gloria Sealy
212 Irish Hill Road
Felton, DE 19943
Voice: 302.284.4032
Email: WorthFinding@yahoo.com
FORM# 41G ES (1/2014)
82-3-1001

Rachael Dain, J.D.
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City of Philadelphia Public Hearing Notice

The **Committee on Public Property and Public Works** of the Council of the City of Philadelphia will hold a Public Hearing on **Monday, May 12, 2014**, at **10:00 AM**, in **Room 400, City Hall**, to hear testimony on the following items:

140340 An Ordinance authorizing the Commissioner of Public Property to: A) acquire by lease or by deed land in the area bounded by the Delaware River, the former Frankford Creek, Bridge Street, Tacony Street and Darkrun Lane (extended to the Delaware River); B) convey by lease or by deed land in the area bounded by the Delaware River, the former Frankford Creek, Bridge Street, Tacony Street and Darkrun Lane (extended to the Delaware River) to the Philadelphia Authority for Industrial Development for further conveyance; C) acquire by deed land located at 3101 East Orthodox Street; and D) acquire by lease or by deed land in the area bounded by the Delaware River, Disston Street (extended to the Delaware River), Milnor Street and Princeton Avenue (extended to the Delaware River), all for nominal consideration and all under certain terms and conditions.

140344 An Ordinance authorizing the Commissioner of Parks and Recreation and the Commissioner of Public Property, on behalf of the City of Philadelphia, to execute a deed to the Philadelphia Authority for Industrial Development ("PAID") and to accept a deed from PAID, and to execute all other necessary documents, for the purpose of exchanging an approximately One and one-tenths (1.1) acre parcel of City-owned land (the "K&T Parcel") that is part of a larger parcel commonly called the Kensington & Tacony Trail (the "K&T Trail") running between Tacony Street and the Frankford Creek, for an approximately One and one-tenths (1.1) acre parcel of land of equal or greater value owned by PAID (the "PAID Parcel") located at 3101 East Orthodox Street and, upon completion of PAID's acquisition of the K&T Parcel, removing the K&T Parcel from the K&T Trail and from the jurisdiction of the Department of Parks and Recreation, subject to certain provisions.

140350 An Ordinance approving a Lease Amendment between Philadelphia Gas Works by Philadelphia Facilities Management Corporation, solely in its capacity as operator and manager of the City-owned Philadelphia Gas Works, and Girard Square A NY LP for certain premises located at 1137 Chestnut Street.

Immediately following the public hearing, a meeting of the Committee on Public Property and Public Works, open to the public, will be held to consider the action to be taken on the above listed items.

Copies of the foregoing items are available in the Office of the Chief Clerk of the Council, Room 402, City Hall.

Michael Decker
Chief Clerk

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